



# Special and Unique Classes Offered

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256 South Maple Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920 • 908 766-5955 • [www.somersetcountyparks.org](http://www.somersetcountyparks.org)

## WEEKLY TRAILS (ALSO JR WEEKLY TRAIL)

**Monday 7:30am (AI1 & higher) and 6:30pm, Wednesday 4:30pm (C-2 & higher jrs), Wednesday 6:30pm (C2/Int2 & higher)**

These classes are trail rides led by an instructor. Registration is online. In order to give riders flexibility, riders will sign up for each week individually (and may sign up for as many weeks at a time as they choose!) until 9am the **weekday** before the ride. A minimum of four riders is required for each trail to go. Registered riders will be notified through email the **weekday** before if the class that week is going or if it is cancelled due to the weather or low enrollment. For the Monday trail, riders will be notified on Friday. Regular lesson fees apply.

## TRAIL CLASSES

Day	Time	Minimum Level
Monday	6:30pm, 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 wks	Western pass
Tuesday	7:30am	Int 2
Wednesday	1pm	Int 1
Wednesday	7:30pm, 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 wks	AI1/B
Thursday	7:30am	Int 3
Friday	11am	Western pass
Friday	6:30pm, 2 <sup>nd</sup> 5 wks	Western pass

These classes are trail rides led by an instructor. Riders must sign up in five week session increments. The trails go out, even if it is raining. If there is stormy weather or unsafe footing, the trail class will ride inside.

## “FLAT/ADVANCED FLAT,” “FLAT,” and “ADV. FLAT 1&2”

**Mondays 9am (1 ½ hr class), Tuesday and Friday 7:30pm, and Saturday 10am**

When a rider reaches the Advanced Intermediate 2 Level (A for Juniors), he/she is given a “Flat” pass. Flat and Advanced Flat classes work on bending, flexion, lateral moves, extensions and collections. In order to advance from Advanced 2 to Advanced 3 (AA to AAA for juniors), riders must complete ten weeks of a Flat class. Once a rider receives a Flat pass, the advancement progression is Flat → Advanced Flat 1 → Advanced Flat 2. Riders may elect not to jump and only follow the “Flat” progression of advancement or may chose to continue along both the jumping level (AI2/Advanced 1 through 4 and A/BB/AA through AAAA for juniors) and the flat level of progression.

## “NON-PERFORMING DRILL”

**Mondays 11am & 5:30pm (jrs only) and Wednesday 7:30pm (1st five weeks) for C-1/Intermediate 1 and higher**

Riders increase their riding skills and have fun riding in pairs and/or riding drill patterns in sync with other riders. Please note: The Wednesday class is for C-2/Intermediate 2 and higher level riders.

## WESTERN PATTERNS CLASS

**Mondays 6:30pm (1<sup>st</sup> five weeks) and Friday 7:30pm for riders with a Western pass or equivalent**

Western Patterns is a FUN class where riders concentrate on patterns/moves that might include rein backs, simple lead changes, circles, turns on the forehand, and other excises that are done at a halt, walk, jog or lope. It is a Western advanced flat class.

*If you have individualized needs due to a disability, please call 908-526-5650 and we will be happy to arrange reasonable accommodations. Three weeks notice is required to ensure that appropriate accommodation can be provided.*





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## INTRO TO WESTERN

**Mondays 7:30pm and Friday 10am for Intermediate 2/C2 and higher levels**

For riders who are looking to learn Western riding and participate in our other Western classes. The class will concentrate on proper leg, seat, and hand position, and neck reining.

## SPECIAL GUEST INSTRUCTORS

**Mondays and Fridays 8:30pm**

Specific information will be disseminated at a later date.

## EQUINE GYMNASTICS & YOGA ON HORSEBACK

**Tuesdays 9am for Intermediate 2 and higher levels**

Feeling stiff after this long cold winter? Just as Gymnastics helps develop balance and symmetry in our horses, Yoga can help us improve our own balance and symmetry as riders. Yoga exercises before mounting and on horseback will help stretch and relax joints and muscles with the aim of being able to move more freely with our horse. Gymnastic exercises with poles and patterns will help horses and riders improve flexibility, rhythm and intent.

## PATTERNS AND MOVEMENTS

**Tuesdays 7:30pm for Intermediate 3/C-3 and higher levels**

Learn to ride dressage tests and equitation patterns with accuracy and precision. The class will focus on individual movements which comprise the tests.

## LOOKING FOR HARMONY WITH YOUR HORSE

**Wednesdays 10:00am for Intermediate 1 and higher levels**

This is a Walk/Trot class designed to help develop better balance and oneness with your horse.

## “JUMPING” ON THE FLAT

**Wednesday 6:30pm and Saturday 8am for AI2/A & higher levels**

Jumping on the Flat is for riders currently in jumping classes. This class will improve riders' jumping technique and skill. Courses will be built with ground poles and low cavalletti. The goal of the class is to create riders who are prepared to ride in jumping classes with better position, seat, hands and skill. The class will:

- Improve riders' sense of distance and timing
- Focus on rhythm, pace and balancing the horse
- Practice “jumping” through looking and without looking
- Assist riders to attain a following and elastic seat and hands
- Strengthen and correct riders' two point position
- Work on counting strides off of turns and into lines
- Teach a more efficient use of half halts, engaging the hindquarters and getting the horse off of the forehand

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### **“Take It Easy”**

**Wednesdays 7:30pm for Intermediate 1/C-1 and higher levels**

Is nervousness taking the pleasure out of your riding? Replace your anxiety with knowledge. This class will concentrate on building confidence – emotionally and physically. Personal attention will be taken to assign riders to one or two horses for the session so you can work on building a sense of comfort and security together. Come and relax and have fun.

### **TRAIL ETIQUETTE & Jr. TRAIL ETIQUETTE - (these classes are offered 2nd five weeks only)**

**Thursdays 11am, 5:30pm (for juniors) and 6:30pm for Advanced Intermediate 1/B and higher levels**

Any rider wishing to obtain a trail card must first complete a five week trail etiquette class and receive a positive recommendation from the class instructor. The class will cover proper trail riding manners, tips, and techniques for an enjoyable trail ride. Juniors are only required to take one five week session as well. Riders must complete a Trail Etiquette class and a five week level class successfully in order to qualify for a Trail Card. AI1/B riders may take the class so that they are ready to be given a trail card once they reach the level of AI2/A.

Trail Cards permit riders to ride on the trail without a stable guide. Riders with trail cards must take one other experienced rider with them on the trail. The other rider must have control and a secure seat at the walk, posting trot, and canter. In order to maintain their trail card status, riders must ride regularly at Lord Stirling Stable and obey all of the park rules. Riders must be at least twelve years old to have a trail card.

### **HORSE CARE 101 – 1<sup>st</sup> 5 WEEKS ONLY**

**Thursdays 7:30pm and Saturday 1pm for Non Riders and All levels**

This is a non-riding class. Participants learn about horses and horse care. Topics include grooming, haltering, tacking up, and more! There is plenty of hands on time with the horses. Participants who enjoy the class and want to learn more can advance to Horse Care 102 and Horse Care 103 on Saturdays for the second five weeks.

### **GROOMING FOR PLEASURE AND SHOW – 2<sup>nd</sup> 5 WEEKS ONLY**

**Thursdays 7:30pm for Beginner 3/D-3 and higher levels**

This class will cater to each individual participant's level and grooming experience. It will include practice with many different grooming tools and grooming products, mane, tail and hoof care, braiding and tail wrapping. LOTS of time will be spent grooming!

### **EQUINE GYMNASTICS**

**Thursdays 8:30pm for Advanced Intermediate 1/B and higher levels**

Riders will be assigned one to two horses for the 10-week session to advance together. The class will focus on balance and simple gymnastic exercises to progress from ground work to raised cavalletti.

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Somerset County Park Commission Lord Stirling Stable



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## MUSICAL RIDE

**Fridays 11am and 6:30pm for Intermediate 1 and higher levels**

This special class will focus on riding to music. Learn how to choose appropriate music, coordinate movements, and then practice the routine you have developed.

## WESTERN ARENA TRAIL RIDING – 1<sup>st</sup> 5 WEEKS ONLY

**Fridays 6:30pm for Western Pass Holders**

This special class will introduce riders to the finer points of negotiating a trail obstacle class. Participants will learn how to negotiate a bridge, open and close a gate, side pass, back through an obstacle, and more.

## EQUINE ART

**Saturdays 1:30 – 3:00PM**

This class, taught by a qualified art teacher, is a creative and instructional non-riding class which invites both riders and non-riders to develop and display their artistic talent and imagination. Participants are able to express their appreciation of the horse through various art mediums such as pencil, charcoal, ink, pastels, water color, and oils.

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